

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing insulin and/or glucose plasma level(s) levels in a subject afflicted with diabetes, comprising ~~administrating~~ administering to the subject an effective amount of dried Dunaliella algae ~~crude Dunaliella powder~~, thereby reducing the subject's plasma insulin and/or glucose plasma level(s) levels.

2. (Currently Amended and Withdrawn) A method for increasing HDL cholesterol levels in the plasma of a subject having low ~~HLD~~ HDL cholesterol levels, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of crude Dunaliella powder, thereby increasing the HDL cholesterol level in a statistically significant manner.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the dried Dunaliella algae ~~said crude Dunaliella powder~~ is administered together with one or more activators of nuclear receptors.

4. (Original) The method according to Claim 3 wherein the activators of nuclear receptors are peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor α or γ (PPAR α or PPAR γ) agonists.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 4 wherein the PPAR α or PPAR γ agonists are selected from the group consisting of fibrates and thiazolidinediones.
6. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 5 wherein the fibrates are selected from the group consisting of clofibrate, fenofibrate, bezafibrate, ciprofibrate, beclofibrate, and gemfibrozil.
7. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 5 wherein the thiazolidinediones are selected from the group consisting of troglitazone, BRL 49653, pioglitazone, ciglitazone, WAY-120,744, englitazone, AD 5075, darglitazone, and rosiglitazone.
8. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the dried Dunaliella algae ~~said crude Dunaliella powder~~ is administered orally.
9. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the dried Dunaliella algae is obtained from Dunaliella bardawil.
10. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dried Dunaliella algae ~~said powder~~ is encapsulated.

11. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 2 wherein said crude *Dunaliella* powder is administered together with one or more activators of nuclear receptors.

12. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 11 wherein the activators of nuclear receptors are peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor α or γ (PPAR α or PPAR γ) agonists.

13. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 12 wherein the PPAR α or PPAR γ agonists are selected from fibrates and thiazolidinediones.

14. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 13 wherein the fibrates are selected from clofibrate, fenofibrate, bezafibrate, ciprofibrate, beclofibrate and gemfibrozil.

15. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 13 wherein the thiazolidinediones are selected from troglitazone, BRL 49653, pioglitazone, ciglitazone, WAY-120,744, englitazone, AD 5075, darglitazone and rosiglitazone.

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 2 wherein said crude *Dunaliella* powder is administered orally.

17. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 2 wherein said *Dunaliella* is *Dunaliella bardawil*.

18. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said powder is encapsulated.

19. (Withdrawn) A method for treating atherosclerosis, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of crude *Dunaliella* powder together with one or more activators of nuclear receptors, thereby treating the disease.

20. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 19 wherein the activators of nuclear receptors are peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor α or γ (PPAR α or PPAR γ) agonists.

21. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 20 wherein the PPAR α or PPAR γ agonists are selected from fibrates and thiazolidinediones.

22. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 21 wherein the fibrates are selected from clofibrate, fenofibrate, bezafibrate, ciprofibrate, beclofibrate and gemfibrozil.

23. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 21 wherein the thiazolidinediones are selected from troglitazone, BRL 49653, pioglitazone, ciglitazone, WAY-120,744, englitazone, AD 5075, darglitazone and rosiglitazone.

24. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 19 wherein said crude Dunaliella powder is administered orally.

25. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 19 wherein said Dunaliella is Dunaliella bardawil.

26. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 19 wherein said powder is encapsulated.

27. (Withdrawn) A method for reducing the size of an atherosclerotic plaque or lesion at the aortic sinus of a subject afflicted with atherosclerosis, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of crude Dunaliella powder together with one or more activators of nuclear receptors, thereby reducing the size of the aortic sinus plaque or lesion.

28. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the dried Dunaliella algae comprises β -carotene.

29. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the β -carotene comprises 9-cis β -carotene.

30. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the β -carotene comprises an approximately 1:1 ratio of all-trans β -carotene and 9-cis β -carotene.